Nuclear Capacity of Pakistan

2802. SHRI MOHINDER SINGH LATHER: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of news item appeared in the Daily published from Mumbai on 25th July on Pak New Bomb, if so, what is the Government's reaction; and

(b) whether Government proposes to change the nuclear weapon capability policy in view of confession made by Pakistan's Army Chief?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DINESH SINGH) : (a) and (b) Government have seen the news item which appeared in The Daily" on 25th July, 1993, with the caption 'Pak Nuke Bomb'. Our concern over the pursuit of a clandestine and weapons-oriented nuclear programme by Pakistan have been conveyed to all concerned.

Government constantly monitor all developments having a bearing on India's security and take necessary measures to safeguard it.

Discussion with us Official

2803. SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Mr. John Malott, Director of the South Asia Bureau of US State Department, visited New Delhi, in May (around May 18), 1993 after visiting Pakistan, to discuss various bilateral issues including the threat of terrorism and the Kashmir issue;

(b) if so, the precise outcome of the discussions; and

(c) the follow-up action since taken in the light thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DINESH SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The visit enabled both sides to undertake an intensive discussion on a variety of issues ranging from narcotics, terrorism, human rights, non-proliferation to intellectual property rights.

These discussions which are part of an ongoing bilateral dialogue at the official level contributed to a better understanding of each other positions. Attempts to narrow down differences will continue on all these issues which continue to remain under discussion.

गुजरात में खाद्य प्रसंस्करण उद्योगों में निवेश

2804. श्री राम सिंह राठवा : क्या खाद्य प्रसंस्करण उद्योग मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार ने गुजरात में खाद्य प्रसंस्करण उद्योगों को प्रोत्साहित करने हेतु किए जाने वाले निवेश का कोई आकलन किया है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो उसका ब्यौरा क्या है ; और

(ग) इस निवेश द्वारा किन-किन उद्योगों को बढ़ावा दिए जाने की संभावना है ?

खाद्य प्रसंस्करण उद्योग मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री तरूण गोगाई) : (क) से (ग) यद्यपि इस मंत्रालय द्वारा खाद्य प्रसंस्करण उद्योगों को प्रोत्साहित करने के लिए आवश्यक पूंजी निवेश का राज्यवार कोई आकलन नहीं किया गया है । परंतु मंत्रालय की योजना स्कीमों के अन्तर्गत विभिन्न राज्यों/क्षेत्रों में खाद्य प्रसंस्करण उद्योगों के विकास के लिए आवश्यक पूंजी निवेश का आकलन करने के लिए अध्ययन करने हेतु राज्य सरकार के संगठनों/शैक्षणिक निकायों आदि को वित्तीय सहायता दी जाती है । इसके बारे में गुजरात से सहायता का ऐसा कोई प्रस्ताव प्राप्त नहीं हुआ है । फल एवं सब्जी प्रसंस्करण, चावल मिलों के आधुनिकीकरण, गहन समुद्री मात्स्यिकी और पछली प्रसंस्करण, मांस और पोल्ट्री प्रसंस्करण, खाद्य प्रसंस्करण के लिए कुछ बुनियादी सुविधाओं को प्रोत्साहित करने आदि के लिए इस मंत्रालय की विभिन्न योजना स्कीमों के अन्तर्गत सहायता उपलब्ध है और राज्य सरकार के निगमों/सहकारिताओं/संयुक्त सेक्टर यूनिटों आदि के द्वारा इसका फायदा उठाया जा सकता है ।

Involvement of Pepsi in Fraud Cases

2805. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI:
SHRI IQBAL SINGH:

Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether two Indian American investors have filed a law suit in a Federal District Court due to their alleged involvement in fraud;

(b) if so, what are the main allegations made against Pepsi;

(c) if so, whether earlier also Pepsi was involved in a number of fraud cases; and

(d) if so, what action Government propose to take against Pepsi ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) This Ministry has no official intimation on any

law suit filed by Indian American investors in a Federal District Court. M/s. Pepsi Foods Limited are also not aware of any law suit filed against the company by individual investors.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Rehabilitation package for the deep-sea fishing industry

2806. SHRI MENTAY PADMANABHAM : Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to refer to answer t6 UnStarred Question 3639 given in the Rajya Sabha on 24th March, 1993 and state:

(a) whether any proposal is under Government's consideration to incorporate the best aspects of the FAO plan to the rehabilitation packages for the deep-sea fishing industry,

(b) what further steps are in the offing to make an acceptable rehabilitation programme for this sick sector; and

(c) whether Government have examined the possibility of subsidising the high costs of port dues in Visakhapatnam owned by the fishing industry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGAI): (a) The recommendations made in the FAO report relate to Demonstration Commercial Fishing (DCF) for diversification of a part of the present fishing fleet; easier credit facilities; and incentives in the form of subsidy/grant-in-aid. The World Bank has communicated that deep sea fishing is not one of the priorities of their Agricultural Division pipeline. However, the Government is already giving assistance for diversified fishing tinder a Plan Scheme. Interest subsidy and diesel subsidy are also being provided to the deep sea fishing sector.

(b) In order to examine the problems of this sector as a whole, a Technical Committee has been constituted which will examine the issues involved and suggest remedial measures.

(c) No, Sir.

Central Excise rebate for the sarine fishing industry

2807. SHRI MENTAY PADMANABHAM: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken up with the Finance Ministry to restore the Central Excise rebate which was earlier in operation for the marine fishing industry: and

(b) if not, reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Government had taken up the matter regarding restoration of Central Excise Rebate for the Deep Sea Fishing Industry with the Finance Ministry. However, the Finance Ministry had not agreed to the same.

Grant of Charter Permits to Sick Fishing Units

2808. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to refer to the-Unstarred Question 1742 given in Rajya Sabha, on 12th May, 1993 and state:

(a) whether Government would consider the need of sick fishing units for special and specific dispensation for grant of charter permits; and

(b) whether it is a fact that liquidity of resources is the main requirement of sick fishing units?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) The basic objectives for grant of Permits to entrepreneurs for chartering foreign fishing vessels are the following:

(i) To establish the abundance and distribution of fishery resources in deep seas in the Indian EEZ;

(ii) To assess suitable craft and gear for economic operation;

(iii) Transfer of technology;

(iv) To enlarge deep sea fishing fleet on ownership basis; and

(v) To establish overseas market for non-conventional fish.

This policy was never meant to be a rehabilitation measure for the sick units. Further, the Government is not entertaining any applications for grant of fresh Charter Permits. However, Government entertains applications from entrepreneurs for grant of permission for joint ventures, leasing and test fishing in deep sea fishing sector.